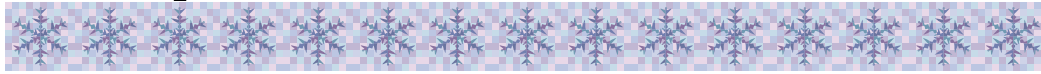


Principal Linc

December 8, 2009



Before our next snowstorm, (four inches predicted for tomorrow) let me take this opportunity to remind you of district and school policies in a snow event. If there is a delay or cancellation it will appear on the webpage www.winchester.k12.ma.us and on Channels 4, 5, 7 and 25. Delays are generally two hours to allow the DPW to finish plowing so children should not arrive before 10:15 if that is the case. Unless the temperature drops below 20 degrees, we bring children out for recess so they should have boots, an extra pair of socks, mittens or gloves, hats and, if they want to “frolic” in the snow they should have snow pants. They will be restricted to the shoveled areas if they do not have boots.

Hopefully you all have received the first term progress reports. The current primary and intermediate versions were developed a few years back to reflect the philosophy of standards based reporting and to eliminate the negative connotation of letter grades. What causes confusion is that the numbers and letters are used differently on the two reports. A number on a primary report indicates progress toward curriculum goals and letters A, M and S indicate degrees of consistency. Almost the opposite is true of the intermediate card where P, M and E denote levels of proficiency but numbers indicate the levels of consistency and independence. Sorry about that! Those differences aside, most students are meeting grade level expectations or are progressing toward them but vary in how consistently and independently they demonstrate particular skills, especially at this time of year. These progress reports and comments should, however, give you a good sense of your child's competencies and areas of need. Evaluating children will never be an exact science as learning is not neat and linear and not always quantifiable but it is exciting!

Thank you to school council member, Carmen Kendrick, for inviting Republican Chairwoman Jennifer Nassour and Representative Jason Lewis to Lincoln School to talk to our older students about government. Thank you also to Andrew Chesterton for his coverage of the event which should be published soon. Our students impressed our visitors with how much they already knew about the role of our government and how many suggestions they had to improve life in Massachusetts.

The School Council will meet with our new safety officer, Tom Grioux, this Wednesday to discuss traffic and safety concerns of the Lincoln community.

Dates to Remember

December 10 - Early Release Day

December 15 - HINI clinic at Lincoln - Contact the Board of Health if you registered your child for the H1N1 but they have since received the vaccination

For planning purposes...MCAS dates

ELA MCAS March 22-April 6 (Gr. 4 Long Comp - March 23) Math MCAS - May 10-28